

S01E32 | STUDENT | Follow-up questions

Ask about the answer

Suggested A2-B1 | Adults and teens | About 15-20 minutes

1. Follow the story

A: I tried a new café on Saturday.
B: Oh, what made you choose it?
A: I wanted somewhere quiet to read, but the music was really loud.
B: That sounds annoying. What did you do next?
A: I took my tea outside and read there.

Which detail does each question follow? Find a reply that shows B is reacting to the story, not only asking questions.

2. Choose a useful question

A says: **I took the wrong bus, but I got there in the end.**

Which question asks for the next part of that story?

a What happened after you got on the bus?

b How often do you take a bus?

Could the other question still be useful later? Explain.

3. Tell a small story

Choose an idea below or invent one. Prepare a starting detail and two new facts. Keep your notes private.

Ideas: a meal you remember; a quiet weekend; something new you tried; a disappointing place; a plan that changed; something you enjoy learning.

Speaker: start with one sentence. Answer each question and add a detail.

Listener: choose a detail from the latest answer. React, then ask a linked question. Try two follow-ups, one at a time. Leave thinking time; respect a change of topic.

Help if you need it

What made you ...? / What happened next?

How was it different from ...? / What do you mean by ...?

That sounds ... / Really? / I see.

Speaker: I would rather talk about ... / Let's invent a story.

4. Check what you learnt, then swap

Tell the speaker one detail you learnt after your first question. Ask if you understood correctly. Swap roles. After feedback, tell a different story and use one useful phrase again.

Optional homework: write a two-line story opening and two linked questions someone could ask. Bring it next lesson and respond to your partner's actual answer. You may use fiction.